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FILED

APR 27 2015

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

RUBY VANN, R.N. License # 26NO 05846300 FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

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- 2. Respondent indicated on her 2014 renewal application that she would not complete required continuing education for the 2012-2014 licensing cycle by May 31, 2014.
- 3. Respondent was asked by the Board's Executive Director in letters dated July 9, 2014 and September 29, 2014 to submit documentation of completion of all continuing education courses required for the 2012-2014 licensing cycle and to provide payment of a civil penalty in the amount of \$250, in the form of a certified check or money order, for the failure to comply with N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3.
- 4. Respondent submitted payment of \$250 in satisfaction of the civil penalty, but she did not provide documentation of thirty (30) contact hours of appropriately accredited continuing education as defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's failure to comply with N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3 subjects respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on February 27, 2015, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license and memorializing payment of the \$250 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record.

The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Vann replied to the Provisional Order, providing certificates of completion for a total of 32 contact hours of valid continuing education, completed on October 15, 2014 (27 hours) and June 6, 2014 (5 hours); documentation of a one hour course in organ and tissue donation completed in 2015 was also subsequently provided. Ms. Vann asked for dismissal of "disciplinary action" against her, based upon the contention that she met her continuing education obligation in the past, did not wish to be considered "a criminal," and did not timely complete her obligation because of a personal problem with a family member. Ms. Vann clearly failed to timely complete her continuing education for the 2012-2014 licensing cycle, however, and the Board therefore determined that, although suspension was no longer applicable, the \$250 civil penalty, payment of which had already been submitted, warranted.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 27 day of Apri, 2015, ORDERED:

- Payment of the civil penalty for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3 is hereby memorialized by this order. As respondent has admitted to the violation and satisfied the penalty, no further payment is required.
- Only two (2) contact hours of the continuing education 2. completed on June 6, 2014 and October 15, 2014 may be utilized to satisfy respondent's continuing education obligation for the 2014-2016 licensing cycle.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN

Board President